

## Appendix F: Applicable Standards and Guidelines

### 1990 Forest Plan

- Water Resources& Riparian Areas, p. 4-119: Maintain the bank, floodplain, and shore stability of all wetlands, streams, lakes, and other bodies of water. Implicit in this standard are actions to prevent all forms of accelerated soil erosion and soil compaction, and the retention of the live root mat to the maximum practicable extent.
- Water Resources& Riparian Areas, p. 4-119: Maintain in-channel and streambank stability maintained for upper and lower channels in the Forest watersheds in order to provide stable, high-quality in streamside management units of all streams at existing levels, and (2) maintain fish habitat at existing levels.
- Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126: Water quality shall be maintained or enhanced through application of best management practices. This meets the requirements of the Clean Water Act and state water quality standards (includes temperature, turbidity, and sediment).
- Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126: Develop fish habitat restoration projects to rehabilitate lost or deteriorated habitat.
- Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126: All forest management activities should provide for unobstructed fish passage to historically accessible fish.
- Fish Habitat Management, p. 4-126: Develop fish habitat restoration projects to rehabilitate lost or deteriorated habitat.
- Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species, p. 4-127: All proposed management actions that have the potential to affect habitat of endangered, threatened, or sensitive species will be evaluated to determine if any of those species are present. Biological evaluations will be completed for all proposed management activities, which could affect threatened and endangered species. Habitat for sensitive plants and animals shall be managed to ensure that management activities do not contribute to these species becoming threatened or endangered.
- Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species, p. 4-127: Before project decision are made, consult with Federal, State, other agencies, groups, and individuals concerned with the management of T & E and sensitive species. In the design of projects for implementation where such species, areas, or habitats are known to occur, insure that appropriate action is taken to protect these species, areas, and.
- Wildlife Habitat Management, p. 4-125: Maintain areas that serve as connecting habitat or corridors for indicator species native and desirable non-native plant and animal species and communities.
- Recreation – Dispersed, p. 4-84 (1): Provide for a broad spectrum of Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) settings and recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, gathering forest products, viewing scenery, camping, hiking, floating, etc.

- Recreation – Trails, p.4-90, 4-91 (7. Trailhead Policy)(b): A trailhead is a place where a trail connects with a road or navigable body of water. Trailheads are part of the transportation system and will be developed and maintained with Forest Roads Program funds. As a minimum, a trailhead will provide adequate parking for an average peak season weekend day's use.
- Recreation – Wilderness, p.4-101: Wilderness provides unique and highly favored recreational experiences, however, recreational use of wilderness must be closely managed and monitored to assure that degradation of resource values does not occur.
- Wild & Scenic Rivers, p. 4-95: Maintain or enhance the recreation, visual, wildlife, fisheries and water quality values of the existing and recommended wild, scenic, and recreation rivers.
- Skagit Wild and Scenic River, p. 4-196: Manage the designated portions of the Skagit, Cascade, Sauk and Suiattle Rivers as the Skagit Wild and Scenic River in accordance with the Skagit River Final Management Plan.

#### Skagit River Final Management Plan

R&S-7 Provide recreation opportunities and a forest environment that is based on a natural or near natural setting throughout the river management zone. Use Recreation Experience Levels, as modified by this plan, as a guideline for recreation management and development within the river corridor.

R&S-8 Boat access sites will need to be developed or upgraded to provide suitable facilities for raft launching and takeout.

R&S-11 Put in and take out will be encouraged and directed to designated sites. Landings will be promoted at designated sites and designated gravel bars.

S-22 River Access: The put-in at Boundary Bridge is the highest priority for development

- Facilities – Construction, p. 4-140: Roads will be designed, constructed, and/or reconstructed according to standards appropriate to planned uses, activities, safety, economics, and impacts on lands and resources using criteria in FSM 7700 and 7720 or as revised.
- Facilities – Operations and Maintenance, p. 4-140(a): Operate, maintain, and/or close roads to meet established road management objectives and safety.
- Facilities – Operations and Maintenance, p. 4-140(d): Develop and implement projects to correct road related water quality, anadromous fish habitat, and other resource problems.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(2): Protect confidentiality of American Indian religious and cultural use areas.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(3): Identify specific American Indian religious and cultural sites and areas according to the nature of the religious use or ceremonial practice:
  - a) Spirit Quest and legendary sites

- b) Cedar area
- c) Ceremonial flora and plant areas
- d) Cemeteries
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(5): Review the Inventory of American Indian Religious and Cultural Use, Practices, Localities, and Resources during the scoping phase of environmental analyses.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(6): Present information about planned project activities in all management areas (i.e., protected and otherwise) to religious and political leaders of tribal groups whose traditional practices might be affected.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(7): Where projects will affect American Indian religious and cultural use sites, protection and mitigation measures shall be worked out with the leaders of the affected tribal groups on a project specific basis or through Memoranda of Agreement.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(8): Project level protection and mitigation measures shall consider the nature of the religious site, type, and duration of use and other factors of concern to tribal leaders in determining what appropriate measures can be designed to protect site values. They shall maximize retention of purity, privacy, and isolation, consistent with overall Plan objectives.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(9): In the event that religious artifacts or features are discovered during implementation of a project, follow the procedures of 36 CFR 800.11.
- American Indian Religious and Cultural Use p. 4-97(10): National Forest System Lands (NFSL) shall be managed to recognize and reduce social and administrative barriers to religious uses of the forest by American Indians.
- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Inventory p.4-98(4): Results of project-level cultural resource inventories shall be documented through environmental analysis for the project. Cultural resource compliance shall be documented according to the current [programmatic agreement] between the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest.
- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Evaluation p.4-98(1): Evaluate the significance of inventoried sites by applying the criteria of eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. This will be accomplished by a professional cultural resource specialist. Sites may be treated as individual properties, thematic groups, or historic districts. Give a priority to those properties that may be affected by project activities. Evaluations will be coordinated with the criteria contained in the Cultural Resource Overview and the State Historic Preservation Plan.
- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Evaluation p.4-98(2): Consider the effects of all National Forest undertakings on significant cultural resources.
- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(1): Until proper evaluation occurs, all known cultural resource properties shall be protected.

- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(2): Develop measures, in consultation with the Washington SHPO, the Advisory Council, and other interested parties as defined in 36 CFR 800 to protect significant sites from adverse effects due to Forest development and management practices. Avoidance of impacts (leaving resources undisturbed) shall be explicitly considered for all significant resources. Other measures may range from avoidance of the site and protection of its environmental setting, to data recovery or recordation to the Historic American Buildings Survey or Historic American Engineering Record standards. Actual measures will be determined through Programmatic Memoranda of Agreement or during consultation for specific projects.
- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(3): Confidentiality of cultural resource site locations shall be maintained as required by Section 304 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Archaeology and Historic Properties - Protection p.4-99(4): Based on management plans, protect eligible cultural resources from degradation due to public use and natural deterioration. Protection activities may include, but are not limited to, scientific study and collection (as outlined in a data recovery plan), the use of fences and barriers, proper use or removal of signs, stabilization techniques, closure plans, patrol and site monitoring, maintaining site anonymity, and gaining public understanding and support through education.
- Fire Management Direction; Group A (2B: Scenic Viewshed-Middleground and 12: Mature and Old Growth Wildlife Habitat) p. 4-143:

Fire Suppression Direction: Appropriate suppression action will be taken on all wildfires within the area these allocations apply. A contain or control strategy will be utilized on human caused fires and other wildfires which threaten cultural resources, capital investments, or other areas where preservation of existing vegetation is desired.

Operational Constraints: Economic efficiency, guided by the maximum fire size constraint (150 acres per year forest wide on an average basis) will control the intensity of fire suppression efforts. The full range of suppression tactics and tools are available, although those with the least impact on the ground are preferred. Control or contain actions will be taken on any fire which has the potential to exceed the maximum fire size constraint for these allocations. Mop-up actions will be consistent with and insure the success of the suppression actions taken.

- Fire Management Direction; Group B (10A: Wilderness-Transition; 10B Wilderness-Trailed; 10C: Wilderness General Trailless; 10D: Wilderness-Dedicated Trailless; and 10E: Wilderness-Special Area) p.4-144:

Fire Suppression Direction: All wildfires will receive appropriate suppression action. Contain or control strategies will be used when wildfires threaten identified cultural sites or improvements or has the potential to leave the wilderness area and result in unacceptable damages. A confine strategy will be used elsewhere.

Operational Constraints: Containment or control actions will be in accordance with wilderness suppression guidelines (FSM). Indirect attack utilizing natural barriers and changes in vegetation and topography will be utilized whenever possible. All

actions will minimize disturbance to vegetation and soil. Helicopters may be utilized if they are the most cost efficient method of accomplishing the job. Natural openings will be utilized as helispots whenever possible. Clearing will be held to a minimum. Power saws and other mechanized equipment will be used only after Forest Supervisor approval. Air tankers will be used only on wildfires which threaten non-wilderness values. Mop-up will be limited to that necessary to maintain the integrity of contain or control objectives when applied.

- Fire Management Direction; Group C (1B Dispersed Recreation-Semi-primitive Nonmotorized) p. 4-145:

Fire Suppression Direction: Appropriate suppression action will be taken on all wildfires within the area this allocation applies. The contain or control strategy will be utilized when wildfires threaten cultural resources, capital investments, or other areas with more constrained fire management direction.

Operational Constraints: Economic efficiency rather than a specified acreage constraint will control the intensity of fire suppression efforts. The full range of suppression tactics and tools are available, though those with the least impact on the ground are preferred. Contain or control actions will be taken on any fire which has the potential to exceed the annual maximum allowable (150 acres per year forest wide on an average basis) burned acreage for this allocation. Mop-up actions will be consistent with insuring success of contain or control actions where deployed.

- Fire Management Direction; Group D (5BLSR: Recommended Scenic Rivers and 6: Skagit Wild & Scenic River) p. 4-146:

Fire Suppression Direction: Control all wildfires at 5 acres or less.

Operational Constraints: Avoid the use of ground disturbing equipment within 100 ft of water courses. Avoid the use of retardant within 200 ft of water courses. Firelines should be located away from stream courses. If possible maintain at least 50 ft between the stream course and firelines. Tactics which maintain the greatest proportion of riparian vegetation are preferred. Mop-up should be aggressive and directed at retaining as much riparian vegetation as possible.

- Fire Management Direction; Group E(1) (14: Deer and Elk Winter Range; 15ALSR: Mountain Goat Habitat-Management Requirements; and 19 & 19LSR: Mountain Hemlock Zone) p. 4-147 :

Fire Suppression Direction: Suppress all wildfires at 50 acres or less using the most cost efficient suppression tactics. An exception to this would be in those areas where this allocation abuts one with a more stringent objective or when private land boundaries are threatened. In these situations, a 10 acre control objective is appropriate.

Operational Constraints: Direct attack will normally be used under Fire intensity Level (FIL) 1 and 2 conditions and indirect attack methods used under FIL 3+. Mop-up will be of sufficient intensity to maintain the control integrity. The full range of suppression techniques is available.

- Fire Management Direction; Group E(2) (17: Timber Management Emphasis-Second Growth Stands) p. 4-148:

Fire Suppression Direction: Suppress all wildfires at 25 acres or less using the most cost efficient suppression tactics. An exception to this would be in those areas where this allocation abuts one with a more stringent objective or when private land boundaries are threatened. In these situations, a 10 acre control objective is appropriate.

Operational Constraints: Direct attack will normally be used under Fire intensity Level (FIL) 1 and 2 conditions and indirect attack methods used under FIL 3+. Mop-up will be of sufficient intensity to maintain the control integrity. A full range of suppression techniques is available.

## **1994 Forest Plan, as Amended, Record of Decision**

### Standards and Guidelines Common to all Land Allocations

- Survey and Manage, p. C-4 (1): Manage known sites.
- Survey and Manage, p. C-5 (2): Survey prior to ground-disturbing activities.

### Key Watershed

- Outside Roadless Areas, p. C-7: Reduce existing system and non-system road mileage.

### Riparian Reserves:

- Roads Management, RF-2, p. C-32: For each existing or planned road, meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives by: Minimizing road and landing locations in Riparian Reserves; preparing road design criteria, elements, and standards that govern construction and reconstruction; preparing operation and maintenance criteria that govern road operation, maintenance, and management; minimizing disruption of natural hydrologic flow paths, including diversion of stream flow and interception of surface and subsurface flow.; and restricting side casting as necessary to prevent the introduction of sediment to streams.
- Roads Management, RF-3, p. C-32: Meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives by: Closing and stabilizing, or obliterating and stabilizing roads based on the ongoing and potential effects to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and considering short-term and long-term transportation needs.
- Roads Management, RF-4, p. C-33: New culverts, bridges and other stream crossings shall be constructed, and existing culverts, bridges and other stream crossings determined to pose a substantial risk to riparian conditions will be improved to accommodate at least the 100-year flood, including associated bed-load and debris. Priority for upgrading will be based on the potential impact and the ecological value of the riparian resources affected. Crossings will be constructed and maintained to prevent diversion of stream-flow out of the channel and down the road in the event of crossing failure.
- Roads Management, RF-5, p. C-33: Minimize sediment delivery to streams from roads. Outsloping of the roadway surface is preferred, except in cases where out-sloping would

increase sediment delivery to streams or where out-sloping is unfeasible or unsafe. Route road drainage away from potentially unstable channels, fills, and hillslopes.

- Roads Management, RF-6, p. C-33: Provide and maintain fish passage at all road crossings of existing and potential fish-bearing streams.
- Late Successional Reserve; Fire Suppression and Prevention, p. C-17: In Riparian and Late-Successional Reserves, the goal of wildfire suppression is to limit the size of all fires...Rapidly extinguishing smoldering coarse woody debris and duff should be considered to preserve these ecosystem elements.

**From 2005 Forest Plan Amendment #25 for Invasive Plants**

- In decommissioning projects, existing infestations should be treated before the road is made undrivable.
- If weeds are present in the project area, all equipment and gear should be cleaned before leaving the area to avoid spreading the infestation further.
- When feasible, work from relatively weed-free areas into the infested area rather than vice-versa.

**From the 2005 ROD amending the Forest Plan**

- Standard 2: Actions conducted or authorized by the Forest Service that will operate outside the limits of the road prism require the cleaning of all heavy equipment prior to entering National Forest system lands.
- Standard 3: Use weed-free straw and mulch for all projects on National Forest System lands.
- Standard 7: Inspect active gravel, fill, and stockpiles, quarry sites, and borrow materials for invasive plants before use and transport. Treat or require treatment of infested source before any use of pit material. Use only gravel, fill, sand, and rock this is judged to be weed free by District or Forest weed specialists.
- Standard 13: Native plant materials are the first choice in revegetation for restoration and rehabilitation where timely natural regeneration of the native plant community is not likely to occur.